

**SECRET**

AIR

REF-4-3714

2 MAY 1953

Chief, ME

Chief of Base, Pullach

Operational/ZIPPER

Info: GCH

Correspondence between Dr. Wilhelm ROETTL and Chief, ME

1. Attached is a photocopy of the correspondence file maintained by Chief, ME, of letters received from ROETTL and his answers thereto. It will be recalled that the Chief, ME, attended university with ROETTL (among other classmates of current interest -- including, of course, to himself). This correspondence was given me by the Chief, ME, during investigation of the ROETTL-PHONER link.

2. Of primary interest in this correspondence is the visible cooling of personal friendship between the two correspondents. ROETTL took violent exception to the fact that Chief, ME, dismissed Baron Harry VAST, and called Chief, ME, to account for this, especially after Baron VAST maintained to ROETTL that the reason for his dismissal was the fact that he had developed too close an association with ROETTL. VAST, as you are aware, now is ROETTL's "chief of staff", serving simultaneously as representative of ROETTL's interests in the Hahnenberg area, and as his intelligence letter drop. Ultimately (16 September 1952 letter) Chief ME grew weary of ROETTL's vituperation, and told him rather plainly that the hiring or firing of VAST by ZIPPER was scarcely his concern. Chief ME maintains that he has not answered ROETTL's letter of 30 September 1952, and has not heard from him since then, except for the meeting at the Antebellum border check point (Walsertal) on 21 October 1952, when ROETTL was returning from his trip through Germany with PHONER and LAUBER.

3. Particularly interesting in forming a picture of ROETTL today is his letter of 30 July 1952. Aside from rather extensive emphasis on the theme of ROETTL's "high level" position in the world of intelligence, ROETTL also accuses Chief ME of trying to prevent his return to Austria in 1947 "so that ROETTL would not be a competitor", and also claims that Chief ME denied activity in the intelligence field until ROETTL told him such "details" of his work that Chief ME was forced to admit his activity. (This was the famous meeting with ROETTL in Lienz, on which CROWEHORN provided some reports, during which meeting ROETTL pointed out some of the wilder enterprises of the then bustling CV A). ROETTL's charges are particularly interesting in view of the fact that Chief ME offered ROETTL's wife a job with ZIPPER at a time when it was not clear whether ROETTL would be released, so there has been no question in the ROETTL family since 1946 of what Chief ME does; furthermore, Chief ME advised PHONER ROETTL to ensure that ROETTL would not be arrested by Austrian authorities before ROETTL returned to Aus-

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trip, pointing out that the Austrians would take him to Vienna, where he would be easy prey to the Russians. Such was his "plot" to keep HERTZ out of Austria. The book mentioned in the correspondence, by the way, is the memoirs of Countess CLAUDE-SCHUMANN, in which Chief IV was interested, but which HERTZ never gave him.

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Approved by

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Reference: As stated above

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128 pages dated 21 June 1968 (Investigation of East Powers)  
POWERS stated that the only "scumbag" he knew was a Mr. SCUMBER, a  
Shoshone employee and former SS officer. POWERS recalled that KIRKMAN,  
during one of POWERS's last visits to his home, received a call from "SCUMBER".  
POWERS asked KIRKMAN and KIRKMAN said: "SCUMBER" was identical with the  
SS officer. Both KIRKMAN and KIRKMAN gave POWERS a definite negative reply  
to this question. POWERS believes that "SCUMBER" is the same man for whom  
known to be: to KIRKMAN and KIRKMAN, but POWERS stated that he did not know  
"SCUMBER's" identity or significance.